

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A security system comprising first and second sensors, each said sensor
5 adapted to be elevated from a stable state corresponding with a secure environment into
an elevated state corresponding with a first detection event, each said sensor configured
to communicate with the other said sensor in order to elevate the other said sensor into
said elevated state, and said security system adapted to generate an alarm signal in
response to one or more second detection events occurring within said security system.

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2. The security system of Claim 1 wherein one of said sensors generates said
alarm signal in response to detecting said second detection event.

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3. The security system of Claim 1 wherein one of said sensors generates said
alarm signal in response to the other of said sensors detecting said second detection
event.

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4. The security system of Claim 1 wherein either of said sensors generates said
alarm signal corresponding with said second detection event occurring at either of said
sensors.

5. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said alarm signal is generated as a
result of both said sensors being in said elevated state and one of said sensors in said
elevated state detecting said second detection event.

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6. The security system of Claim 1 wherein each said sensor is configured to
communicate current state status to the other said sensor.

7. The security system of Claim 1 wherein a central controller generates said alarm signal as a result of one of said sensors in said elevated state and one of said sensors detecting said second detection event.

5 8. The security system of Claim 7 wherein said central controller generates said alarm signal as a result of the same said sensor detecting said first and second detection events.

10 9. The security system of Claim 7 wherein said central controller generates said alarm signal as a result of different said sensors detecting said first and second detection events.

10. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said first and second sensors are at one premises.

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11. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said first sensor is at one premises and said second sensor is at a second premises.

20 12. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said first detection event occurs at one premises and said second detection event occurs at another premises.

13. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said alarm signal generated in response to a second detection event at one premises is transmitted across a network to another premises.

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14. The security system of Claim 1 implemented in a two-way cable system.

15. The security system of Claim 1 wherein said alarm signal is generated in response to one of said sensors detecting said second detection event and one of said sensors detecting another said second detection event.

5 16. The security system of Claim 15 wherein one of said second detection events is detected by one of said sensors and the other of said second detection events is detected by the other said sensor.

10 17. The security system of Claim 15 wherein both said second detection events are detected by the same said sensor.

18. The security system of Claim 1 wherein both said sensors detect the same said second detection event.

15 19. A method for providing security comprising the steps of:
providing a plurality of sensors adapted to communicate with one another;
elevating one of said sensors from a stable state corresponding with a secure environment into an elevated state corresponding with a first detection event;
communicating to at least one other said sensor to elevate the at least one other said sensor into said elevated state; and
generating an alarm signal in response to one or more second detection events occurring at one of said sensors in said elevated state.

20 25 20. The method of Claim 19 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises one of said sensors generating said alarm signal in response to detecting said second detection event.

21. The method of Claim 19 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises one of said sensors generating said alarm signal in response to another of said sensors detecting said second detection event.

5 22. The method of Claim 19 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises either of said sensors generating said alarm signal corresponding with said second detection event occurring at either of said sensors.

10 23. The method of Claim 19 further comprising the step of one of said sensors communicating its current status to another said sensor.

15 24. The method of Claim 19 further comprising the steps of providing a central controller and said central controller generating said alarm signal as a result of at least one of said sensors being in said elevated state and at least one of said sensors detecting said second detection event.

25. The method of Claim 24 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises said central controller generating said alarm signal as a result of the same said sensor detecting said first and second detection events.

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26. The method of Claim 24 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises said central controller generating said alarm signal as a result of different said sensors detecting said first and second detection events.

25 27. The method of Claim 19 wherein said first detection event occurs at one premises and said second detection event occurs at another premises.

28. The method of Claim 19 further comprising the step of transmitting across a network said alarm signal to one premises generated in response to said second detection event occurring at another premises.

5 29. The method of Claim 19 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises one of said sensors detecting said second detection event and one of said sensors detecting another said second detection event.

10 30. The method of Claim 29 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises one of said second detection events detected by one of said sensors and the other of said second detection events detected by another said sensor.

31. The method of Claim 29 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises said second detection events detected by the same said sensor.

15 32. The method of Claim 19 wherein said alarm signal generating step comprises different said sensors detecting the same said second detection event.

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